

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03965 030159Z

12

ACTION IO-10

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ERDA-07 OIC-02 FEA-01 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UNGA EGEN IN

SUBJECT: 7TH SPECIAL SESSION: GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT BY

INDIAN FONMIN CHAVAN

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER CHAVAN CALLED FOR CONFRONTATION OF THE PROBLEMS AND NOT OF COUNTRIES. HE URGED THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES COOPERATE MORE AMONG THEMSELVES AND ALSO THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES MAKE A GREATER EFFORT. THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION WAS TO SET IN MOTION THE PROCESS OF CHANGE AS ESTABLISHED BY THE 6TH SPECIAL SESSION, WITH STRESS ON INFLUENCING DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TOWARD COOPERATION WITH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THE CREATION OF NEGOTIATING MECHANISMS FOR FINDING AGREED SOLUTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CHAVAN ADDRESSED THE 7TH SPECIAL
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PAGE 02 USUN N 03965 030159Z

SESSION ON 2 SEPTEMBER. HE STATED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT

OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER DEPENDS UPON THE ACCEPT-
ANCE OF INTERDEPENDENCE, COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY, EQUAL
SHARING OF DECISION-MAKING ON PATTERNS OF CHANGE, AND RECOGNI-
TION OF SECTORAL INTER-DEPENDENCE AS A BASIS FOR DEVELOP-
MENT. WHILE THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR NATIONAL DEVELOP-
MENT RESTS WITH NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS, RESPONSIBILITY FOR
CHANGES IN GLOBAL STRUCTURES RESTS WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
IN THIS CONTEXT, HE SAID "THERE HAS BEEN A GROWING AWARE-
NESS IN MOST OF THE DEVELOPED WORLD THAT IT IS IN THEIR
OWN INTERESTS TO ACCEPT A NEW RE-ORDERING OF THE WORLD'S
ECONOMY," BUT ACCEPTANCE ALONE WILL NOT HELP THE DEVELOP-
ING COUNTRIES VERY MUCH.

3. CHAVAN SAID THAT INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOP-
MENT HAS BEEN BUILT ON TWO MAIN PILLARS, AID AND TRADE.
AID IS BEGINNING TO SHRINK IN REAL TERMS, AND PRICES OF MOST
DEVELOPING COUNTRY EXPORTS ARE DEPRESSED WHILE COSTS OF
IMPORTS HAVE RISEN. THERE IS A NEED TO SAFEGUARD THE INTERESTS
OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE AREA OF COMMODITY TRADE.
HE CALLED FOR POLITICAL AGREEMENT ON AN INTEGRATED APPROACH
AND THE REMOVAL OF TRADE BARRIERS, TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF
ON MANUFACTURES AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES.

4. HE SAID THAT ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE ON CONCESSIONAL TERMS IS
NEEDED AND, IN THIS CONTEXT, NOTED THE UNBEARABLY HEAVY DEBT
BURDEN OF MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE ALSO CALLED FOR FOLLOW-
UP TO THE INITIATIVES OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE.

5. CHAVAN URGED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO COOPERATE WITH EACH
OTHER, BREAKING AWAY FROM THE COLONIAL PATTERN OF DEALING
WITH EACH OTHER THROUGH A DEVELOPED PARTNER. NEW MECHANISMS
SHOULD BE CREATED TO PROMOTE THIS, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS
ON PREFERENTIAL TRADING ARRANGEMENTS.

6. HE SAID THAT TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS OFTEN ACT IN A
WAY DETRIMENTAL TO THE SOVEREIGNTY OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
AND THUS REQUIRE GREATER REGULATION.

7. TURNING TO THE INDIAN DOMESTIC SCENE, HE SAID THAT THE
COUNTRY FACES GRAVE PROBLEMS PRESENTED BY THE RISING COSTS
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PAGE 03 USUN N 03965 030159Z

OF MANUFACTURED GOODS, FOOD, AND FUEL, WHILE THE PRICES OF
INDIA'S EXPORTS HAVE NOT INCREASED CORRESPONDINGLY. INDIA
HAS TAKEN STEPS TO DEAL WITH THIS, BUT INTERNATIONAL COOPERA-
TION AND ASSISTANCE ARE VITAL.

8. CHAVAN CONCLUDED BY DESCRIBING THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE 7TH
SPECIAL SESSION AS THE SETTING IN MOTION OF THE PROCESS OF
CHANGE AS ESTABLISHED IN THE 6TH SPECIAL SESSION, WITH STRESS

PLACED ON INFLUENCING DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TOWARD COOPERATION
WITH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND THE CREATION OF NEGOTIATING
MECHANISMS FOR FINDING AGREED SOLUTIONS. "A NEW INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC ORDER CAN EMERGE ONLY FROM MULTIPLE NEGOTIATIONS
AIMED AT REACHING BINDING COMMITMENTS."
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